GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:643
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2015
Vacant Land
Chandrappa Shri B.N.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of hectares of land acquired for Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are still lying vacant in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
(b) whether the land far in excess of requirement was taken over for SEZs and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
(c) whether the Government is taking any steps to look into the matter and to make use of the vacant hand in an appropriate way; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) and (b): Land and its management falls under the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the States as provided in Entry No. 18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. As per information received from Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Central Government does not acquire land for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs). Land for SEZs is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. The Board of Approval of SEZs only considers those proposals for setting up of SEZs that have been duly recommended by the State Government. A statement showing the State/Union Territory wise, total notified land area, area utilised and lying vacant in Processing Area of 366 notified SEZs is enclosed.
(c) and (d) : In order to operationlise the non-functional SEZs, review meetings with the Development Commissioners of SEZs are held regularly and they have been advised to interact with the Developers of SEZs for speedy operationalisation of these SEZs. Further, Road Shows have been organised in the different places of the country to give wide publicity of SEZs.

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